

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25

NEA-11 FEA-02 AID-20 EB-11 COME-00 INT-08 TRSE-00

AEC-11 AECE-00 SCI-06 STR-08 OIC-04 CEA-02 CIEP-02

OMB-01 EPA-04 CEQ-02 DOTE-00 DRC-01 /232 W

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O 252300Z JAN 74 ZFF6

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2476

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE

USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 284

STATE ALSO FOG T/IEP

OCAD FOR MARTIN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, UN, ECOSOC

SUBJ: ENERGY--FRENCH PROPOSAL FOR UN SPONSORED

CONFERENCE

REF: STATE 15406

1. SUMMARY: AMB FERGUSON IN MEETING WITH MINISTER
ROUGE (FRENCH REP ECOSOC) CARRIED OUT INSTRUCTIONS
REFTEL. END SUMMARY

2. AMB MET MIN ROUHE AM JAN 25 TO INFORM HIM THAT US
COULD NOT SUPPORT THE CALLING NOW OF A UN WORLD ENERGY
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CONFERENCE AND US LEFT OPEN POSSIBILITY OF APPROPRIATE

UN INVOLVEMENT IN SOME ASPECTS OF ENERGY AT SOME DATE
IN FUTURE.

3. IN ELABORATION FERGUSON STATED THAT USG OF THE OPINION
THAT FRENCH INITIATIVE COULD ONLY LEAD TO DISORDER,
CONFUSION, DUPLICATION, MULTIPLICATION OF FORUMS AND OTHER
SITUATIONS WHICH WOULD MAKE MEANINGFUL OUTCOMES EXTREMELY
DIFFICULT TO ACHIEVE. MOREOVER UN-WIDE CONFERENCE INEVI-
TABLY WOULD HAVE EFFECT OF DIMINISHING AMERICAN INITIATIVE
BY PROVIDING DIRECT FORUM TO THOSE WHOSE VIEWS ARE BEING
TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN US INITIATIVE BUT WHO MIGHT NONETHELESS
FEEL IMPELLED TO UTILIZE UN FORUM FOR NARROW NATIONAL
POLITICAL SUPPORT. FURTHER FERGUSON INFORMED ROUGE THAT
FOR FOREGOING REASONS US WOULD IN OPERATIONAL TERMS BE
IMPELLED TO (A) OPPOSE ANY CALL FOR SPECIAL ECOSOC SESSION;
(B) OPPOSE INSCRIPTION OF ITEM ON UPCOMING SPRING ECOSOC
SESSION; AND (C) OPPOSE RECALL OF GA FOR DEALING WITH CALL
FOR CONVOCAION OF CONFERENCE. FERGUSON ADDED THAT IT
SHOULD BE BORNE IN MIND THAT ENERGY WILL BE ON SUMMER ECOSOC
AGENDA IN GENEVA IN ANY EVENT.

4. ROUGE'S REACTION VERY INTENSE TO THE POINT OF APPEARING
TO BE IN PHYSICAL PAIN. HE STATED THAT FRENCH SAW THEIR
INITIATIVE AND US INITIATIVE AS COMPLEMENTARY--THEY SEEKING
TO BUTTRESS, UNDERPIN AND ASSIST US BUT THAT FRENCH VIEW
NO ONE COULD DENY WORLDWIDE IMPORT OF PROBLEM AND THAT ONLY
PROPER FORUM FOR SUCH CONCERNS LAY UNDER UN FLAG. FURTHER
ROUGE STATED FRENCH NOT CONSIDERING RECALLING 28TH
GA BECAUSE THAT WOULD LEAD SIMPLY TO "A LOT OF UNMANAGEABLE
FOOLISHNESS." FYI: FERGUSON DID NOT PUT TO ROUGE QUESTION
OF LOGICAL ANTITHESIS TO UNMANAGEABLE FOOLISHNESS, I.E.
MANAGEABLE FOOLISHNESS. END FYI. ROUGE FURTHER ELABOR-
ATED THAT AT MOMENT ALL FRENCH WANTED TO DO WAS TO GET UN
SEIZED OF PROBLEM FOR PURPOSES OF PROCEEDING WITH PROPER
STUDIES AND THE LIKE. THAT FRENCH QUITE SERIOUS IN THEIR
INITIATIVE WHICH WAS NOT MOTIVATED BY ATTEMPT TO CAUSE
SECSTATE DIFFICULTY BUT OUT OF DESIRE TO CREATE CERTAIN
LOGICAL STRUCTURES FOR COPING WITH ENERGY IN BROADEST
SENSE.

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5. FERGUSON REASSERTED US CONCEPTION OF BUILDING BLOCK
APPROACH AND REASSERTED VIEW OF USG THAT EVEN HAVING US
SEIZED OF ENERGY PROBLEM UNDER FRENCH INITIATIVE WAS
LOGICALLY IMPOMPATIBLE WITH THE APPROACH USG ADOPTED WHICH
APPROACH HAD BEEN SET FORTH PRIOR TO THE JOBERT LETTER TO
SYG. FERGUSON ADDED THAT OFFICE OF SYG HAD BEEN MADE AWARE
OF USG POSITION AS WELL AS PRES KARHILO (PRES ECOSOC).

6. COMMENT: ROUGE'S PAIN QUITE APPARENT
IN HIS COMPOSURE. IN FERGUSON'S OPINION FRENCH WHILE
ANTICIPATING OUT COOLNESS, DID NOT ANTICIPATE BLUNTNESS
OF OUR POSITION, PARTICULARLY THAT OF NOT SUPPORTING CALL
FOR SPECIAL ECOSOC SESSION FOR INSCRIPTION IN SPRING.

7. EVEN AT THIS EARLY DATE TWO DEVELOPMENTS SEEM INEVI-
TABLE FROM FRENCH SIDE: (A) INTENSIFICATION OF "SPOILER"
ROLE FRENCH INTEND TO PLAY REGARDING WASHINGTON CONFERENCE,
SEE SEPTTEL; AND (B) LIKELIHOOD FRENCH WILL BECOME MIS-
CHIEVOUS IN WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE.
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